

US History EOC Review Packet

American Identity

Important Vocabulary

- Branches of Government – Legislative (Congress), Executive (President), and Judicial (Supreme Court)
- Checks and Balances – set up by the Constitution; each branch of the federal government has the power to check, or control, the actions of the other branches
- Separation of Powers – set up by the Constitution; system in which each branch of the government has its own powers
- Popular Sovereignty – set up by the Constitution; people are the source of the government's power
- Free-Enterprise – freedom of private businesses to operate competitively for profit with minimal government regulation
- Unalienable Rights – rights that can't be denied by government, including life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness
- **Ratify** – to approve by vote
- Judicial Review – right of the Supreme Court to judge laws passed by Congress and determine whether they are constitutional or not
- Alexis de Tocqueville Five Values
 - Laissez-Faire – minimal government regulation of businesses and the economy
 - Liberty – freedom; people have the power to choose
 - Egalitarianism – equality in society and politics; no social classes
 - Individualism - self interest; people have different backgrounds and experiences
 - Populism – promotes the interests of the common people
- E Pluribus Unum – out of many one; symbolizes the different colonies coming together to form one country
- Constitutional Republic - government run by representatives elected by the people whose job it is to uphold the constitution

Important Documents/Policies

- Declaration of Independence – written by Thomas Jefferson, declared the colonies independence from England; unalienable rights of life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness
- Constitution – sets out the laws and principles of the government of the United States
- Bill of Rights – first ten amendments to the Constitution and details the protection of individual liberties

Important People

- King George III – King of England who disbanded the colonial legislatures and taxed the colonies leading to the final break with the colonies
- Thomas Jefferson – founding father who wrote the Declaration of Independence
- Benjamin Rush – founding father who signed the Declaration of Independence and favored educating women and was anti-slavery
- John Hancock – founding father who was the President of the Continental Congress and the first to sign the Declaration of Independence

- John Jay – founding father who was one of the authors of the Federalist Papers and the first Supreme Court Justice
- John Witherspoon – founding father who educated many founding fathers and signed the Declaration of Independence
- John Peter Muhlenberg – founding father who used his role as a minister to recruit soldiers, served as a general in the Continental Army, and served in both the House and Senate
- John Carroll – founding father who wrote articles protesting taxes and signed the Declaration of Independence
- Jonathan Trumbull Sr. – founding father who was the only Colonial Governor to support the Revolution
- Alexis de Tocqueville – Frenchman, who visited America and wrote Democracy in America about his experiences

Amendments

- 1st Amendment – states that “Congress shall make no law” restricting freedom of speech, religion, press, assembly, and petition
- 2nd Amendment – guarantees the right of individuals to bear arms
- 3rd Amendment – forbids the government to order private citizens to allow soldiers to live in their homes
- 4th Amendment – requires that warrants be issued if property is to be searched or seized by the government
- 5th Amendment – protects an accused person from having to testify against him/herself (self-incrimination), bans double jeopardy, and guarantees that no person will suffer the loss of life, liberty, or property without due process of law
- 6th Amendment – guarantees the right to a speedy public trial by an impartial jury, the right to a lawyer, the right to cross examine witnesses, and the right to force witnesses at a trial to testify
- 7th Amendment – guarantees the right to a jury trial in civil suits
- 8th Amendment – prohibits cruel and unusual punishment and excessive bail or fines
- 9th Amendment – states that the people have rights other than those specifically mentioned in the Constitution
- 10th Amendment – states that powers not given to the federal government belong to the states

Court Cases

- Miranda v. Arizona – Supreme Court Case that established your Miranda Rights to ensure that law enforcement agents read inform you of your constitutional rights when being arrested

Western Expansion and the Gilded Age

Important Vocabulary

- Laissez-faire – policy in which the government stays out of private businesses
- Assimilation – policy in which Native Americans and Immigrants were taught how to be “American”

- Nativism – reaction to the increase in immigration; people began to favor policies which would restrict immigration
- Political Machines – organizations that control processes of government through bribery and force; friends are rewarded with jobs within the government in a process called the “spoils system”
- **Civil Service** – government jobs
- Big Business (monopolies/trusts) – companies which control a product or service, and so decrease or eliminate competition
- Infrastructure – the framework of a city/country, such as, transportation, schools, and communication systems
- Philanthropy – people give money to various causes to help out the community, such as libraries, universities, or cultural centers; Andrew Carnegie
- Labor Unions – increased during this time period to fight for the rights of workers, such as, better working conditions, hours, and wages
- Populism – movement that grew out of farmer’s complaints, such as, railroad monopolies, bank failures, unstable economy, and falling crop prices
- Cattle Boom – resulted from an increase in the supply of cattle out west, increase demand for beef in the east, and the growth of the railroads

Important Places and Events

- Gilded Age – time period in which the prosperity and growth of industry covered the poverty and corruption of the era
- Industrial Revolution – era in which a change from household industries to factory production using powered machinery
- Urbanization – growth of cities; resulted in cities being overcrowded, poor sanitation, rapid spread of disease, and poor infrastructure
- Social Gospel Movement – a movement that developed within religious institutions to reform society
- Settlement House Movement – started by Jane Addams to help immigrants to assimilate into American culture
- Western Expansion – increased settlement and development of the western frontier leading to the closing of the frontier; increased by the expansion of the railroads, Homestead Act, cattle boom, and Gold Rush
- Klondike Gold Rush – led to the largest Gold Rush in American History, led to development of the city of Seattle and changed the environment of Alaska

Important Documents/Policies

- Pendleton Civil Service Act – government jobs are now given based on merit/exams
- Chinese Exclusion Act – caused by nativism and a fear of cheap labor; did not allowed Chinese immigrants in the U.S. to become citizens and excluded future immigration from China
- Dawes Act – divided reservation land into individual plots; destroyed traditional Native American idea of communal land ownership – effort to assimilation Native Americans
- Homestead Act – gave 160 acres of land to Americans who met certain qualifications; effort to increase western expansion

- Omaha Platform – created by the Populist Movement; included government ownership of transportation and communication, change in monetary policy, direct elections of senators, and income tax
- Transcontinental Railroad Act – created the Transcontinental Railroad, which increased western expansion, led to the closing of the frontier, increased the economic development of the west, increased the standard of living in the west, and drove industrialization

Important People

- Andrew Carnegie – one of richest philanthropist in the world who shared his wealth to worthy causes aid educations, international peace, libraries, cultural centers, research, and publications
- Jane Addams – created the Hull House, which started the settlement house movement to help immigrants to assimilate into American culture
- Jacob Riis – photographed pictures of immigrants and wrote the book How the Other Half Lives, which served to help increase awareness of the poor working and living conditions faced by immigrants

Innovations

- Telephone – invented by Alexander Graham Bell; increased communication between people which helped to increase economic development across the country
- Electricity – invented by Thomas Edison; increased economic productivity by allowing businesses to stay open longer
- Steel Production – increased after the Bessemer Process made production more affordable and stable
- Agricultural Machinery (mechanized reaper, steel plow, steel windmill) – increased agricultural output by saving farmers time and effort

Progressive Era

Important Dates

- 1898 – Spanish American War

Important Vocabulary

- Temperance Movement – campaign against the sale or drinking of alcohol
- Initiative – process by which special interest groups, through voter participation, can propose bills to their legislature for a vote; allows voters to force lawmakers to deal with difficult issues in needed
- Referendum – process by which voters approve bills offered by the legislature; allows controversial bills to be voted on by the public before becoming a law
- Recall – voters have the power to remove public officials from office before the next scheduled election
- Gold Standard – for every note printed there is an equal value of gold in some bank
- Fiat Money - a medium of exchange and only has value because of regulation or law
- Conservation – preserving natural resources by limiting commercial development and ensuring their wise use; areas of scenic beauty, or scientific or geological, or biological interests are preserved as parks

Important Places/Events

- Progressive Movement – political movement in which reformers sought to change child labor laws, minimum wage, rights for women and minorities, and political reforms such as initiative and referendum
- Spanish-American War – started when the USS Maine exploded in Havana Harbor and the yellow journalism that followed; the U.S. came out as a world power and acquired the territories of Puerto Rico, Guam, and the Philippines
- U.S. Expansionism/Imperialism – motivated by a desire to control international trade, expand the navy, spread American culture, obtain raw materials, and find new markets
- Panama Canal – built for faster travel/trade between the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans; many workers died from mudslides, malaria, and yellow fever
- Annexation of Hawaii – led by Sanford B. Dole; forced annexation – the natives of Hawaii did not want to become part of the United States

Important Documents/Policies

- Monroe Doctrine – foreign policy stating that the United States would not interfere in European affairs and that the Western Hemisphere was closed to colonization/interference by European nations
- Interstate Commerce Act – created the Interstate Commerce Commission to regulate businesses involved in transporting people or goods across state lines
- Big Stick Policy/Roosevelt Corollary – increased U.S. involvement in Latin America; allowed for the U.S. to use force if necessary to create stability
- Dollar Diplomacy – promote stability in Latin America to open new markets and protect American political and economic interests in the area
- Open Door Policy – policy to open China to equal trade from all countries
- National Parks System – created by Theodore Roosevelt to increase conservation efforts across the nation
- Anti-Trust Acts – government efforts to increase government of businesses to increase regulation
- The Jungle – written by Upton Sinclair; discussed to horrible conditions in the meat packing industries; led to the passage of the Pure and Food and Drug Act and the Meat Inspection Act
- Pure Food and Drug Act – created after Upton Sinclair wrote The Jungle; increase government regulation of the food industry
- Federal Reserve Act – created the Federal Reserve, which increased government regulation of the money supply and economy

Important People

- Henry Cabot Lodge – U.S. Senator who supported American expansion as a way to increase national pride, spread civilizations, and thereby gain world power
- Alfred Thayer Mahan – admiral and navy historian whose theories on the relationship of sea power and world commerce influenced the build-up of the navy
- Theodore Roosevelt – gained national attention as the leader of the “Rough Riders” during the Spanish American War; President who created the National Parks System, and supported the passage of Pure Food and Drug Act and several anti-trust acts

- Sandford B. Dole – played a significant role in the annexation of Hawaii, served as the first Governor of Hawaii
- Missionaries – helped to increase American Expansionism by spreading American culture to the countries they visited and encouraging further expansion
- Muckrakers – writers who exposed corruption in government and business
- Upton Sinclair – muckraker, who wrote *The Jungle*, which exposed the conditions of the food industry and led to increased government regulation
- Ida B. Wells – reformer, who fought for women’s rights and started the Anti-Lynching Campaign
- Jacob Riis – reformer, who wrote *How the Other Half Lives*, which exposed the horrible conditions faced by immigrants
- W.E.B. Du Bois – reformer, who created the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (N.A.A.C.P) to fight for the rights of African Americans
- Frances Willard – reformer, who started the Christian Temperance Union, to make alcohol illegal
- Jane Addams – reformer, who started the Hull House/settlement house movement, to help immigrants to assimilate into American culture
- Susan B. Anthony – leading voice in the women’s suffrage movement

Amendments

- 16th Amendment – created the income tax; which increased government revenue
- 17th Amendment – allowed for the direct election of senators; made government more accountable to its constituents
- 18th Amendment – made the consumption, sale, and transportation of alcohol illegal; led to the creation of speakeasies and a rise in organized crime
- 19th Amendment – women’s suffrage; increase women’s ability to influence government

World War I

Important Dates

- 1914-1918 – the years of World War I, which was triggered by the assassination of Archduke Franz Ferdinand and ended with the Treaty of Versailles

Important Vocabulary

- M.A.I.N. – causes of World War I – militarism, alliances, imperialism, and nationalism
- Unrestricted Submarine Warfare – after years of neutrality during World War I, the U.S. entered the war because of Germany’s attempt to try to dominate sea power in the Atlantic
- Zimmerman Telegram – Germany offered Mexico territory in the United States if they invade the U.S.; one of the events which led to U.S. involvement in World War I
- Fourteen Points – Woodrow Wilson’s plan to reduce the risk of war through open covenants of peace, absolute freedom of navigation, removal of economic barriers to trade, and well as other political and economic points
- League of Nations – international organization created after World War I; U.S. refused to join because of isolationist feelings among Americans after the war

Important Places/Events

- Sinking of the Lusitania – resulted from German unrestricted submarine warfare; one of the events which led to U.S. involvement in World War I
- Battle of Argonne Forest – final battle of World War I; American Expeditionary Forces helped lead an Allied victory and the end of the war

Important Documents/Policies

- Selective Service Act – created the draft of men for military service
- Espionage Act and Sedition Act – allowed the government to limit your First Amendment (freedom of speech)
- Treaty of Versailles – written by Allied Leaders that ended World War I and created the League of Nations; charged Germany with the responsibility for the war and ordered reparations to be paid to Allied Nations

Important People

- Franz Ferdinand – assassination led to the start of World War I
- Allied Powers – Britain, France, Russia, Serbia, United States
- Central Powers – Germany, Austria-Hungary Empire, Ottoman Empire
- Alvin York – World War I veteran, who won the Congressional Medal of Honor for bravery during the war
- John J. Pershing – World War I veteran, who commanded the American Expeditionary Forces
- American Expeditionary Forces – American forces in World War I, who helped to increase Allied morale and led to their victory at the Battle of Argonne Forest
- Woodrow Wilson – President of the United States during World War I, who created the Fourteen Points and supported the creation of the League of Nations

Court Cases

- Schenck v. United States – court case, in which the Supreme Court created the “clear and present danger” clause which allowed the government to regulate your 1st Amendment rights in order to protect Americans

Innovations

- Trenches and machine guns – created No Man’s Land/stalemate during World War I
- Airplanes, tanks, poison gas – helped to break the stalemate by increasing ability to travel across No Man’s Land

Roaring Twenties

Important Vocabulary

- Isolationism – foreign policy of the United States between World War I and World War II; U.S. removed itself from involvement in international affairs
- Social Darwinism – survival of the fittest; belief that government should decrease regulation/involvement in society and allow people to succeed/fail on their own
- Eugenics - segregation, institutionalization, sterilization, and euthanasia of immigrants with “unfavorable” characteristics

- Nativism – increased during the 1920s as a reaction to increasing immigration from Southern and Eastern Europe and Asia
- Flappers – women who pushed traditional cultural norms, such as smoking, drinking, and wearing shorter hair and hemlines
- Laissez-faire – policy in which the government does not regulate businesses and the economy
- Mass consumption – as a result, of increased production and an economic boom

Important Places and Events

- Red Scare – intense fear of communism or other radical ideas; many Americans/immigrants were deported and jailed for their radical beliefs
- Palmer Raids - “suspected radicals” many of whom were immigrants were rounded up without evidence/trial and were jailed or deported
- Prohibition – created by the 18th Amendment, which made it illegal to manufacture, sell, or transport alcoholic beverages; led to creation of speakeasies and organized crime
- Great Migration – many African Americans migrated North because of Jim Crow Laws and increased opportunities (jobs, housing, education)
- Teapot Dome Scandal – scandal during Harding’s administration, in which Albert Falls sold the rights to drill on government land to two oil companies in return for money
- Tin Pan Alley – music production for home entertainment
- Harlem Renaissance – African American cultural revival, which encouraged African Americans to stand up for their rights; Louis Armstrong and Langston Hughes

Important Documents/Policies

- Immigration Quotas – created to limit immigration from Eastern and Southern Europe and Asia; response to increased nativism
- Return to Normalcy – President Harding’s plan for America after World War I; return to peacetime economy, deregulation, isolationism, reduction of taxes; increased productivity and led to an economic boom
- The Great Gatsby – written by F. Scott Fitzgerald; detailed the mass consumption and materialism of the Roaring Twenties

Important People

- Clarence Darrow – defended Scopes during the Scopes Trial
- William Jennings Bryan – prosecuted Scopes during the Scopes Trial
- Henry Ford – created the Model T and the assembly line, which increased mobility in the United States and increased mass production
- Glenn Curtiss – helped to increase aviation development and military applications for aviation
- Marcus Garvey – created the Back to Africa Movement, in which he encouraged African Americans to move back to Africa as a way to ensure equality
- Charles Lindbergh – made aviation history when he flew the Spirit of St. Louis nonstop from St. Louis to Paris in 1927
- Warren G. Harding – President during the Teapot Dome Scandal and introduced Return to Normalcy (reduce taxes, deregulation, and isolation)
- Langston Hughes – poet during the Harlem Renaissance, who encouraged African Americans to fight for equality

- Louis Armstrong – musician during the Harlem Renaissance, who helped to break the color barrier in music

Court Cases

- Scopes Trial – trial which debated teaching evolution in schools; conflict between modernism and traditionalism
- Sacco and Vanzetti Trial – trial in which two Italian immigrants were found guilty and executed based on circumstantial evidence, most of which was based on their immigrant status and radical beliefs

Innovations

- Assembly Line – led to mass consumption by making factory production more efficient and effective; introduced by Henry Ford

Great Depression

Important Events

- 1929 – On Black Tuesday, the stock market crashed leading to a worldwide economic depression

Important Vocabulary

- Tariff – tax on imported goods
- Causes of the Great Depression
 - Buying on Margin – people were buying stock with money they didn't have; when the stock market crashed people couldn't pay their loans back
 - Overproduction – factories were producing too many goods
 - Underconsumption – people who needed goods couldn't afford them and people who could afford them didn't need them

Important Places/Events

- Dust Bowl – created by lack of crop rotation (over farming) and drought; affected the Great Plains; farmers migrated west (California) in search of jobs
- Federal Reserve Raises Interest Rates – made it difficult to get loans, which led to more businesses closing because they couldn't afford to stay open
- Bank Runs – too many people went to the bank to withdraw all of their money
- FDR Court Packing Plan – FDR tried to put justices on the Supreme Court who would support FDR's New Deal Policies; Congress rejected the plan because it would violate separation of powers/checks and balances

Important Documents/Policies

- Hawley-Smoot Tariff – created the highest tariff in American history; led to other countries raise their tariffs – cutting off international trade
- Mexican Repatriation Act – Many Mexican Americans and Mexican immigrants were deported to Mexico in response to the Great Depression

- New Deal – President Roosevelt’s plan to restore economic stability and get Americans back to work; included the creation of several programs which revolved around relief, recovery, and reform
- Social Security Act – New Deal program which still affects Americans today; creates a pension for Americans who are retired or disabled and can’t work
- Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation – New Deal program which still affects Americans today; created to insure bank deposits and restore public confidence in the banks
- Securities and Exchange Commission – New Deal program which still affects Americans today; regulates the stock market
- Tennessee Valley Authority – provided hydroelectric power, flood control, and recreational opportunities to the Tennessee River Valley and surrounding areas
- Civilian Conservation Corps – provided employment for 3 million young men in projects that included reforestation, fire fighting, and swamp drainage
- Agricultural Adjustment Act – paid farmers subsidies to reduce their crop production
- Federal Housing Administration – helps Americans to get affordable mortgage loans from the bank
- Works Progress Administration – distributed money to state and local governments to build highways, schools, etc.
- The Grapes of Wrath – book written by John Steinbeck; highlights the plight of Oklahoma farmers during the Dust Bowl and their migration westward

Important People

- Herbert Hoover – President during the Great Depression; believed in little government involvement to help relieve the Great Depression and instead encouraged rugged individualism
- Franklin D. Roosevelt – President during the Great Depression; believed the government needed to increase its role in helping to relieve the Great Depression (New Deal)
- Eleanor Roosevelt – First Lady who fought for the rights of the poor, women, and African Americans
- Dorothea Lange – took photos which showed the plight Americans faced during the Great Depression

World War II

Important Dates

- 1939-1945 – Dates of World War II; started with Germany invading Poland and ended when the U.S. dropped atomic bombs on Japan
- December 7, 1941 – Japan attacked Pearl Harbor; lead to U.S. involvement in World War II

Important Vocabulary

- Propaganda – created by the Office of War Information to encourage Americans to participate in the war effort
- War Bonds – Americans bought these to raise money for the war effort
- Victory Gardens – planted by Americans to increase home consumption
- Rationing – reduced the amount certain goods Americans on the home front could buy, to increase the goods available to soldiers

- Volunteerism – increased enlistment and working in war industries

Important Places/Events

- Holocaust - genocide of Jews in Europe; over 6 million Jews and 5 million other Europeans died; concentration camps were used to carry out this genocide
- Germany Invades Poland – event which starts World War II
- Attack on Pearl Harbor – event which led to U.S. involvement in World War II; motivated after the U.S. froze Japanese assets to raw materials (oil)
- Manhattan Project – developed the atomic bombs
- Battle of Midway – important battle, which served as the turning point on the Pacific Front; put the U.S. on the offensive
- Island Hopping – strategy created by Douglas MacArthur; U.S. strategically attacked islands while passing over others; goal was to get in range of bombing Japan
- Bataan Death March – took place after the invasion of the Philippines; many U.S. and Filipino soldier faced starvation, dehydration, torture, and death
- D-Day/Invasion of Normandy – important battle, which served as the turning point on the European Front; forced Germany to fight on multiple fronts
- Liberation of Concentration Camps – as the Allied Forces pushed back German forces, they revealed the horrors of Nazi extremism
- Atomic Bombs Dropped on Japan – led to the surrender of Japan and the end of World War II

Important Documents/Policies

- Lend-Lease Act – allowed the government to help Allied countries, while remaining neutral
- Executive Order 9066 – authorized the internment of Japanese Americans and immigrants

Important People

- Franklin D. Roosevelt – President during the war, who increased the role of the President in determining American foreign policy (Lend-Lease Act)
- Harry S. Truman – President of the United States, who authorized the dropping of the atomic bombs on Japan
- Office of War Information – gave information about the war to Americans and also created propaganda to encourage Americans to support the war effort
- Omar Bradley – U.S. Army General noted for his concern for individual soldiers and his ability to organize troops during World War II; he commanded the First Arm in the D-Day campaigns
- Dwight D. Eisenhower – Supreme Allied Commander, who led the Allied Forces at D-Day
- Douglas MacArthur – U.S. Army General who created the island hopping strategy and helped in the rebuilding of Japan after the war
- Chester Nimitz – U.S. Admiral from Texas, who led American forces at the Battle of Midway
- George Patton – U.S. Tank General, who led American forces in North Africa, Italy, and at the Battle of the Bulge
- Vernon Baker – World War II veteran, who received the Congressional Medal of Honor for bravery during the war
- Tuskegee Airmen – first all African American fighter squadron; help to increase support for the desegregation of the armed forces

- Flying Tigers – volunteer pilots, who fought the Japanese in China before America entered the war
- Navajo Code Talkers – Navajo Indians who created a code language that was never broken by the Axis Powers
- Axis Powers – Italy, Germany, and Japan
- Allied Powers – Britain, France, Soviet Union, China, and the United States

Court Cases

- Korematsu v. United States – the Supreme Court upheld Executive Order 9066, saying that during times of war the government can take away some constitutional rights

Cold War

Important Dates

- 1957 – the start of the space race between the United States and the Soviet Union which began with the Soviet launch of the world's first satellite, Sputnik
- 1969 – Neil Armstrong and Buzz Aldrin won the space race for the U.S. by being the first to walk on the moon
- 2001 – the end of the Cold War; fall of the Berlin Wall

Important Vocabulary

- McCarthyism – term refers to Senator Joseph McCarthy actions during the Red Scare, in which he accused American's of being communist spies without always having the evidence to support his claims
- Iron Curtain – symbolic line which separates Communist Eastern Europe from Capitalist Western Europe for the duration of the Cold War
- In God We Trust – symbolized the difference between the U.S. (religious) and Soviet Union (no religion)
- Military-Industrial Complex – grew during the Cold War as the United States started to devote more man power and money to stock piling weapons and researching new military technology
- National Aeronautics and Space Administration – created during the space race to lead U.S. space exploration
- Suburb – residential community surrounding a city; people started to migrate to during the 1950s and 1960s as cars became more affordable and the Interstate Highway system was created
- Silent Majority – American's who Nixon believed quietly/subtly supported the war in Vietnam
- Credibility Gap – the difference between what the President knows and what the American public knows; how big this gap should be became more controversial after the Vietnam War and remains so today

Important Places/Events

- Red Scare – Americans feared the spread of communism, especially communist spies infiltrating the U.S. government and military led to many Americans being put on trial without evidence

- Berlin Airlift – U.S. and British forces flew planes into the blockade city of Berlin to give needed supplies to the people
- Space Race – race between the United States and Soviet Union to be the first country to land and walk on the moon
- Korean War – caused by the invasion of South Korea by communist North Korea and motivated by U.S. policy of containment; effects – Korea remained divided by the 38th parallel – containment occurred, military-industrial complex grew, first war with an integrated army, poisoned future relations with China
- Cuban Missile Crisis – 13 day period in which the threat of nuclear war between the U.S. and Soviet Union seemed eminent; Kennedy responded to nuclear missiles in Cuba with a naval quarantine (blockade); crisis ended when the Soviet Union promised to remove the missiles and the U.S. promised to end the blockade, not invade Cuba, and remove missiles in Turkey
- Vietnam War – U.S. becomes involved because of Domino Theory and Containment;
- Tet Offensive – psychological turning point of the Vietnam War; Americans start to question U.S. involvement in an undeclared war
- Escalation of Forces in Vietnam – from 1965-1968 the U.S. dramatically increased military deployments to Vietnam
- Fall of Saigon – symbolized the end of the Vietnam War and led to a mass exodus of U.S. personnel and South Vietnamese out of Vietnam
- Anti-War Movement – started to question U.S. involvement in an undeclared war in Vietnam; concentrated on college campus (Kent State and Jackson State)
- Baby Boom – increased the population of the United States and led to economic development from increased consumption (more schools, houses, and consumer products)
- Rock and Roll – created a generation gap and helped to integrate audiences
- Beat Generation – emphasized spontaneity and challenging traditional cultural values; started the counterculture movement

Important Documents/Policies

- Containment – contain (stop) communism from spreading to other countries
- Domino Theory – belief that if one country fell to communism then the surrounding countries would also fall to communism
- G.I. Bill of Rights (Servicemen's Re-Adjustment Act) – helped veterans to receive a college education and buy a house
- Interstate Highway Act – created the interstate highway system, which increased mobility and linked the country
- National Defense Education Act – passed after the launch of Sputnik; increased funding to increase education initiatives in math and science
- House Un-American Activities Committee – was created to find and prosecute suspected communist spies in the United States
- Truman Doctrine – created to show that the U.S. would assist countries resisting communism, using both economic and military aid; initially only applied to Greece and Turkey
- Marshall Plan – created by George Marshall; provided economic aid to countries in Western Europe to help rebuild after the war and resist communism
- North Atlantic Treaty Organization – military alliance created to stop communism expansion; an attack on one was an attack on all

- Gulf of Tonkin Resolution – allowed the President to increase troop deployments to Vietnam without a formal declaration of war from Congress; essentially gave Johnson a blank check
- Vietnamization – plan by President Nixon to decrease U.S. involvement in Vietnam; U.S. would slowly pull troops out of Vietnam, while helping the South Vietnamese learn to defend themselves
- War Powers Act – restricted the ability of the President to engage in an undeclared war; the President can only deploy troops for 90 days without Congressional approval and must notify Congress within 48 hours of troop deployment; affected the relationship between the Legislative and Executive branches of government

Important People

- John F. Kennedy – President of the United States who negotiated the Cuban Missile Crisis by instituting a naval blockade around Cuba
- Lyndon B. Johnson – President of the United States who increased U.S. involvement in Vietnam through the Gulf of Tonkin Resolution
- Richard Nixon – President of the United States who decreased our involvement in the Vietnam War through Vietnamization
- Roy Benavidez – Vietnam War veteran who received the Congressional Medal of Honor for bravery
- George Marshall – implemented the Marshall Plan after World War II for the economic recovery of Europe; he won the Nobel Peace Prize for his post-war efforts
- Dwight D. Eisenhower – President of the United States, who initiated the Interstate Highway Act and warned against the military-industrial complex

Amendments

- 22nd Amendment – established two term limits for President; initiated after Franklin Roosevelt was elected four times
- 26th Amendment – lowered the voting age from 21 to 18; increased participation in the government; response to the Vietnam War and draft

Court Cases

- Tinker v. Des Moines – Supreme Court ruled that students can practice free speech in schools, as long as it does not interfere with the school day or violate the rights of other students

Innovations

- Vaccines – helped to increase life expectancy; polio was the most famous from the 1950s
- Space Technology – N.A.S.A. has developed technology that has practical applications as well; such as smoke detectors, cordless tools, fire-resistant clothing, bullet proof vest, medical imaging, and devices to detect dangerous chemicals in the air
- Television – increased during the 1950s as family stayed at home for entertainment; emphasize traditional family roles

Civil Rights

Important Dates

- 1968 – Martin Luther King, Jr. was assassinated as he stood on the balcony of the Lorraine Motel in Tennessee

Important Vocabulary

- Civil Disobedience – refusal to obey a government law(s) as a means of passive resistance because of one's moral conviction or belief
- Litigation – bringing an issue to the court system
- Boycott – refusal to buy a good or use a service until the law/treatment of workers changes
- Jim Crow Laws – laws which legalized segregation in the South

Important Places/Events

- Montgomery Bus Boycott – began when Rosa Parks refused to give up her seat on the bus to a white man; the bus boycott lasted for eleven months
- American Indian Movement – created to fight for the rights of Native Americans; included organizing the Occupation of Alcatraz, Mount Rushmore, and Wounded Knee, and the March on Washington
- Little Rock Nine – after Brown v. Board of Education, Governor Faubus refused to allow Nine African American students in Central High School; showed that the federal government would force integration
- I Have a Dream – speech given by Martin Luther King, Jr. during the March on Washington; afterwards we see an increase in civil rights legislation being passed
- March on Washington – led by civil rights leaders, over 200,000 African Americans and Whites spent the day in song, prayer, and listening to speeches
- Freedom Riders - African American and Whites traveled around the south testing the law desegregating interstate buses and helped to desegregate lunch counters
- United Farm Workers – co-founded by Cesar Chavez and Dolores Huerta to fight for better working conditions for migrant workers
- National Organization for Women – co-found by Betty Friedan to fight for equality for women, especially in the work place
- Chicano Mural Movement – started in the Southwestern region of the United States; artists painted scenes depicting Hispanic Heritage and celebrating their cultural identity

Important Documents/Policies

- Letter from a Birmingham Jail – written by Martin Luther King, Jr. used to justify the use of civil disobedience
- Civil Rights Act of 1957 – showed an increased government commitment to civil rights
- Civil Rights Act of 1964 – outlawed discrimination in public places, such as, schools, employment, hotels, restaurants, housing, and theaters
- Voting Rights Act of 1965 – outlawed literacy tests as a qualification for voting
- Great Society – President Johnson's plan to increase economic equality across the nation; started with the Economic Opportunity Act
- Medicare and Medicaid – provides health insurance for people who are retired, disabled, or in low-income situations

- Elementary and Secondary Education Act – increased government funding to schools
- Economic Opportunity Act – created programs such as, Head Start, VISTA, and the Job Corps
- Public Broadcasting Act – created PBS, which brings educational programs to all Americans regardless of income
- Immigration Act of 1965 – eliminated immigration quotas; led to a huge increase in immigration
- Affirmative Action – programs which give special consideration to women and minorities in education and employment to make up for past discrimination; has become very controversial
- Title IX of the Higher Education Act – required schools to offer equal opportunities for women in education and sports
- Community Re-Investment Act – sought to help Americans in low-income neighborhoods to get loans from banks
- American Indian Citizenship Act – made Native Americans citizens of the United States
- Feminine Mystique – book written by Betty Friedan, which encouraged women to seek their own opportunities (work outside the home)

Important People

- Martin Luther King, Jr. – civil rights activist, who preached civil disobedience, led the Montgomery Bus Boycott, gave the I Have a Dream Speech, and wrote Letter from a Birmingham Jail
- Rosa Parks – civil rights activist, whose non-violent actions led to the Montgomery Bus Boycott when she refused to give up her bus seat to a white man
- Black Panthers – civil rights activists, who preached self-reliance and violent resistance
- Jackie Robinson – civil rights activist, who helped to break the color barrier (desegregated) Major League Baseball
- Thurgood Marshall – civil rights activists, who was the N.A.A.C.P. lead lawyer, served as the head lawyer on the Sweatt v. Painter and Brown v. Board of Education court cases, and was the first African American Supreme Court Justice
- Cesar Chavez – civil rights activists, who co-founded the United Farm Workers, fought for the rights of migrant workers, and helped to organize national grape and lettuce boycotts
- Hector P. Garcia – civil right activist, who created the G.I. Forum to help Hispanic veterans receive benefits, such as, medical benefits and the G.I. Bill
- Dolores Huerta – civil rights activist, who co-founded the United Farm Workers, and lobbied to help Hispanic immigrants to assimilate into American culture and receive equal rights
- Betty Friedan – civil rights activist, who fought for women's rights; wrote the Feminine Mystique and co-founded the National Organization of Women
- Phyllis Schlafly – conservative who opposed the Equal Rights Amendment and promoted traditional values
- Harry S. Truman – President of the United States who issued an executive order to integrate the armed forces
- Lyndon B. Johnson – President of the United States, who pushed Congress to pass the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and the Voting Rights Act of 1965 and created the Great Society to fight poverty and increase economic opportunities
- Dwight D. Eisenhower – President of the United State, who sent federal troops to Little Rock Arkansas to integrate the schools after Brown v. Board of Education

Amendments

- 13th Amendment – abolished slavery
- 14th Amendment – guarantees citizenship, equal protection, and due process
- 15th Amendment – guarantees the right to vote to all citizens regardless of race
- 24th Amendment – outlawed poll taxes as a requirement for voting

Court Cases

- Plessey v. Ferguson – Supreme Court Case created the “separate but equal” clause, which legalized segregation
- Sweat v. Painter – Supreme Court Case which stated that in Texas the all-black law school was not equal to UT Law School; decision would later influence Brown v. Board of Education
- Brown v. Board of Education – Supreme Court Case which declared that segregation was unconstitutional; led to the desegregation/integration of schools across the country
- Mendez v. Westminster – California Court Case which stated that segregating students into “Mexican schools” was unconstitutional
- Hernandez v. Texas – Supreme Court Case which declared that there was a difference between race and ethnicity and so guaranteed that Hispanics were protected under the 14th Amendment
- Delgado v. Bastrop ISD – Texas Court Case which stated that segregating into different schools was unconstitutional, but did allow for separation on the same campus
- Edgewood ISD v. Kirby – Texas Court Case which stated that the legislature has to change the way schools received funding; could not be based solely on property taxes
- Roe v. Wade – Supreme Court Case which legalized abortion based on a women’s constitutional right to privacy
- Wisconsin v. Yoder – Supreme Court Case which stated that freedom of religion supersedes a state’s need to educate all citizens
- White v. Regester – Supreme Court Case which state that Texas was disenfranchising their minority voters when drawing congressional districts
- Bakke v. University of California – Supreme Court ruled the Bakke was a victim of reverse discrimination, but did not overturn affirmative action policies

1970s to 1980s

Important Vocabulary

- Détente – relaxation of political tensions between two countries
- Lobby – person/people try to influence government officials to pass laws to support their special interests

Important Places and Events

- Nixon Visits China – form of détente; first time the U.S. and China had diplomatic relations since the Korean War
- Watergate – scandal involving President Nixon organizing a break-in of the Democratic headquarters; led to the resignation of Nixon
- Oil Embargo – OPEC refused to ship oil to the United States in response to U.S. support of Israel in the Six Day War and Yom Kippur War

- Camp David Accords – first peace treaty between Egypt (Arab) and Israel; Egypt recognized the existence of Israel
- Iran Hostage Crisis – Shah of Iran was kicked out during the revolution; Carter allowed the Shah to come into the U.S. for cancer treatment; Iranian Revolutionaries attacked the embassy and kidnapped Americans, holding them hostage for 444 days
- Civil War in Lebanon – Reagan sent peacekeeping troops to Beirut; marines were left vulnerable to terrorist attacks
- Iran-Contra Affair – scandal during Reagan’s administration; government officials sold weapons illegally to Iran and then used the money to finance the Contras in Nicaragua
- Rust Belt to Sun Belt Migration – Americans migrated because of new technology, such as air conditioning and highways and more jobs; businesses migrated because of Southern states tend to have lower corporate taxes and less regulations

Important Policies/Documents

- Strategic Arms Limitation Treaty – between the U.S. and Soviet Union; example of détente; promise to reduce nuclear weapons – peace did not last long
- Environmental Protection Agency – created to protect natural resources; Clean Air Act and Clean Water Act were passed in response
- Endangered Species Act – created to protect species threatened by extinction
- INF Treaty – between the U.S. and Soviet Union; reduced the amount of nuclear weapons each country had – allowed for countries to inspect each other
- Reaganomics – conservative economic approach by Reagan, which included reducing taxes, deregulation, and reducing domestic government spending (social welfare)
- “Peace through Strength” – Reagan Doctrine; plan to use military strength to fight communism around the world; Strategic Defense Initiative (increase military spending)

Important People

- Richard Nixon – President of the United States, who ends the Vietnam War, practices détente with China and the Soviet Union (SALT), and resigns after the Watergate Scandal
- Ronald Reagan – President of the United States, who introduced supply-side economics (Reaganomics) and “peace through strength”
- Sandra Day O’Connor – first women Supreme Court Justice; nominated by Reagan
- Barry Goldwater – known as the Father of Modern Conservatism; after presidential nomination there is an increase in the conservative wing of the Republican Party
- Billy Graham – conservative preacher, who advocated a stronger stance on communism and prayer returning to schools
- Heritage Foundation – conservative group, who lobbies for government to pass laws to protect conservative values
- Moral Majority – conservative group, who gave money to elect conservative politicians
- National Rifle Association – conservative group, who lobbies to protect Americans Second Amendment (right to bear arms)

1990s to Present

Important Dates

- 2001 – September 11 Terrorist Attacks

- 2008 – Election of the first African American president, Barack Obama

Important Vocabulary

- Multinational Corporation – a business who operates in more than one country; McDonalds, Dell, Pizza Hut, Wal-Mart
- Third Parties – impact Presidential elections by taking votes away from major parties, and present issues that the major parties are forced to address
- Cultural Diffusion – diffusion of American cultural values; less cultural diversity
- Globalization – spread of American cultural values (businesses, music, movies)
- Free-Enterprise – government stays out of business; competition regulates the market
- Entrepreneur – a person who has an idea and then takes initiative to act on it

Important Places/Events

- Persian Gulf War – U.S. forces liberate Kuwait showing that the U.S. will continue to play a role in foreign affairs; shows that oil is an issue of national security
- Balkan Crisis – U.S. and N.A.T.O intervene to stop genocide; shows that the U.S. will continue to play a role in international affairs
- Clinton's Impeachment – he was charged for committing perjury (lying under oath)
- 2000 Election – outcome controversial; Supreme Court ruled in Bush v. Gore to stop the recounts; impacted the relationship between the Executive and Judicial Branches
- 9/11 Terrorist Attacks – over 3,000 people died when four commercial planes were hijacked; U.S. responded by creating the Department of Homeland Security, passage of the USA PATRIOT Act, and starting the Global War on Terror
- Global War on Terror – increased U.S. involvement in Southeast Asia and the Middle East to protect the U.S. from future attacks
- Hurricane Katrina – severe weather event which led the death of many Americans when the levees failed in New Orleans
- Increased Immigration – changed the demographics of the United States

Important Documents/Policies

- Contract with America – created by Newt Gingrich; government officials promised to reduce the size of government and make it more responsible to its constituents
- General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade – created after World War II to decrease tariffs
- North American Free Trade Agreement – created during Clinton's Presidency as an effort to increase trade between the U.S., Canada, and Mexico by reducing tariffs
- World Trade Organization – took the place of GATT; created to regulate trade and settle trade disputes
- USA PATRIOT ACT of 2001 – created after the 9/11 terrorist attacks; increases the ability of the government to run surveillance on Americans; controversial because it violates Americans privacy and the 4th Amendment (protection from unreasonable search and seizure)
- American Recovery and Re-Investment Act - referred to as "the stimulus plan"; created to stimulate the economy through corporate and individual tax cuts, unemployment benefits, increase domestic spending, and social welfare

Important People

- Bill Gates – American entrepreneur and philanthropist; co-founded Microsoft and the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation
- Sam Walton – American entrepreneur; founded Wal-Mart and Sam's Club
- Estee Lauder – American entrepreneur; co-founded a make-up/perfume company with her husband
- Robert Johnson – American entrepreneur; created Black Entertainment Television (BET), the first African American owned company on the stock market, making him the first African American billionaire
- Lionel Sosa – American entrepreneur; created the largest Hispanic advertising agency in the U.S. and served as the Hispanic media consultant on six presidential elections
- Hillary Clinton – First Lady who championed universal healthcare, ran for President in the Democratic primary and served as the Secretary of State
- Oprah Winfrey – entrepreneur and philanthropist; created the Oprah Winfrey Show, O Magazine, the Oprah Winfrey Book Club, and the Oprah Winfrey Network; greatest African American philanthropist in American history
- Sonia Sotomayor - nominated as federal judge by Bush Sr., to the US Court of Appeals by Clinton, and the Supreme Court by Obama; first Hispanic and 3rd Women Supreme Court Justice

Court Cases

- Bush v. Gore – Supreme Court case in which the Supreme Court ruled to stop the election recounts in Florida; affected the relationship between the Executive and Judicial branches

Innovations

- Satellites – used in predicting weather patterns, TV, and cell phones; can be used to gather information over a large section of the planet
- Computers – reduction in privacy, quicker access to information, increased efficiency, internet-usage agreements, entertainment, and shopping
- Time-Study Analysis – helps managers to improve production methods and be more efficient with their labor
- Robotics – loss of manufacturing jobs; increase efficiency and accuracy
- Just-In Time Inventory – computer tracks inventory; speeds up production and decreases costs because products arrive when needed and reduces need for large inventory

Late 1800s	Industrial Revolution	Era in which a change from household industries to factory production using powered machinery
Late 1800s	Social Gospel Movement	A movement in the late 1800s and early 1900s that emphasized charity and social responsibility as a means of salvation
Late 1800s	Gilded Age	Name given to the late 1800s to describe the increase in wealth caused by the industrial age which covers the poverty and corruption

Late 1800s	Settlement House Movement	Started with the Hull House and Jane Addams, helped immigrants to assimilate into American culture, by providing child care and English Language classes
Late 1800s	Western Expansion	Promoted by the Homestead Act and completion of the Transcontinental Railroad; people migrated west to be miners, farmers, and cowboys; conflict with Native Americans
Late 1800s	New Agricultural Technology	Saved farmers time and effort; increased production of crops, which led to a drop in price
Late 1800s	Populist Movement	Movement which grew out of farmer's complaints, such as, railroad monopolies, bank failures, unstable economy, and falling crop prices
1855	Bessemer Process	Made steel production for affordable and increased the strength of steel; increased steel production; led to the creation of skyscrapers and suspension bridges
1862	Homestead Act	Legislation that gave 160 acres to any head of household; designed to promote western expansion
1865	13 th Amendment	Abolished slavery or involuntary servitude
1867	Chisholm Trail	Primary cattle route from Texas to Kansas
1868	Tammany Hall	Political machine that controlled New York City
1868	14 th Amendment	Granted citizenship, due process, and equal protection under the law
1869	Transcontinental Railroad Act	Created the Transcontinental Railroad; increased western migration, economic development of the west, and increased the standard of living
1869	Knights of Labor	Became the first labor union to included all workers
1870	15 th Amendment	Stated that the right to vote cannot be denied based on race, color, or previous condition of servitude
1870s	Farmers Alliance	Several organizations of farmers that organized to increase the political and economic power of farmers
1875	Alexander Graham Bell invents the Telephone	Increased communication and economic development in the United States

1879	Thomas Edison Invents Electricity	Increased productivity because factories/businesses could stay open before/after the sun went up/down
1882	Chinese Exclusion Act	Denied citizenship to Chinese in the U.S. and forbid further immigration from China
1883	Pendleton Civil Service Act	Legislation that required the merit system to be used to assess the capabilities of public office holders
1886	American Federation of Labor	It is a collection of various labor unions, by 1917 it had 2.5 million members
1887	Interstate Commerce Act	Law that created the Interstate Commerce Commission, which monitors businesses involved in transporting goods and people between states
1887	Dawes Act	Legislation that divided up Indian reservations giving families individual plots of land, instead of traditional communal land ownership
1880s-1890s	Temperance Movement	Desired to make the sale, consumption, or transportation of alcohol illegal
1892	Omaha Platform	Consisted of the unlimited coinage of silver, government ownership of communication and transportation industries, direct election of senators, term limits for Presidents, income tax, and immigration restrictions
1893	Annexation of Hawaii	Planters led by Sanford B Dole over throw the native population; forced annexation
1896-1899	Klondike Gold Rush	Largest gold rush in American History; increase migration to the Northwestern region of the United States; changed the geographic landscape of Alaska
1896	Plessey v. Ferguson	Supreme Court created the "separate but equal" clause, which legalized segregation
1898	Spanish American War	Was triggered by the explosion of the USS Maine in Havana Cuba
Early 1900s	Progressive Era	Political movement in which reformers sought to change child labor laws, minimum wage, rights for women, and political reforms such as initiative and referendum

Early 1900s	Anti-Trust Acts	Legislation that increased government involvement in regulating/breaking up monopolies and trusts
1900	Open Door Policy	United States trade policy with China that stated all nations would have equal trading rights in China
1904	Construction of the Panama Canal	Many workers died from mudslides and diseases, like malaria and yellow fever; faster travel and trade between the Pacific and Atlantic Oceans
1904	Roosevelt Corollary/ Big Stick Policy	Increased U.S. involvement in Latin America; U.S. would use force if necessary to protect interests in Latin America
1906	The Jungle	Written by Upton Sinclair; described the horrific conditions in the food industry; led Roosevelt to push Congress to pass the Pure Food and Drug Act
1906	Pure Food and Drug Act	Passed by Congress to increase government regulation of the food industry; included things like ingredient labels and sanitary requirements
1909	Dollar Diplomacy	Policy adopted by President Taft to encourage investment by American banks and businesses in foreign countries; he promised military protection to those who invested abroad
1909	National Association for the Advancement of Colored People	The organization was created by W.E.B. Du Bois to fight for equality for African Americans
1913	16 th Amendment	Gave Congress the power to tax income
1913	17 th Amendment	Guaranteed the direct election of Senators by voters
1914-1918	World War I	Was triggered by M.A.I.N. and the assassination of Archduke Franz Ferdinand and ended with the Treaty of Versailles
1915	Sinking of the Lusitania	One of the events which led to U.S. involvement in World War I; caused by German unrestricted submarine warfare
1916	National Parks System	Created by Theodore Roosevelt to encourage conservation of natural resources and protect wild animals

1917	Zimmerman Telegram	Germany promised Mexico land in the U.S. if it invaded the United States; one of the events which led to U.S. involvement in World War I
1917	Selective Service Act	Created the draft of young men for military service
1917-1918	Espionage and Sedition Acts	Allowed the government to limit your First Amendment rights (free speech) during times of war
1918	Battle of Argonne Forest	Last major offensive of World War I under General Pershing which led to the surrender of Central Powers and the end of World War I
1919	Schenck v. United States	Supreme Court created the "clear and present danger" clause, which allowed the government to limit someone's speech if it threatened the security of the nation
1920	18 th Amendment	Made the manufacture, sale, and transportation of alcohol illegal; led to the creation of speakeasies and increased organized crime
1920	19 th Amendment	Extended the right to vote to women in federal and state elections
1920s	Great Migration	African Americans moved from South to North because of Jim Crow Laws and better opportunities (jobs, housing, and education)
1920s	Harlem Renaissance	Rebirth of African American culture led by poets, authors, artists, musicians, movie stars and provided an outlet for African American intellectuals who continue to oppose racial segregation and suppression
Early 1920s	Return to Normalcy	President Harding's plan to reduce taxes, deregulate, and isolate the United States
1919-1921	Red Scare	Paranoia regarding the threat of Bolsheviks to the United States. Many people were charged with crimes, deported, or executed because of their political beliefs
1919-1920	Palmer Raids	"suspected radicals" many of whom were immigrants were rounded up without evidence/trial and were jailed or deported
1921	Sacco and Vanzetti Trial	Italian immigrants were convicted of murder based on circumstantial evidence that dealt more with their status as immigrants and political radicals

1923	Teapot Dome Scandal	Scandal during the administration of President Harding; the Secretary of Interior Albert G. Fall leased government oil reserves in Wyoming to oilmen who paid him hundreds of thousands of dollars
1924	American Indian Citizenship Act	Gave Native Americans citizenship
1924	Immigration Quotas	Were created to limit immigration from Southern and Eastern Europe and Asia
1925	The Great Gatsby	Written by F. Scott Fitzgerald; described the mass consumption and materialism of the Roaring Twenties
1925	Scopes Trial	Debated teaching evolution in high school; modernism (Darrow) v. traditionalism (Jennings)
1927	Charles Lindberg	Flew non-stop across the Atlantic; increased development in the aviation industry
1929	Stock Market Crash	Lead to the Great Depression and a worldwide economic collapse
1929-1942	Great Depression	Period of severe economic hardship that began with the stock market crash in 1929 and continued until World War II; banks failed and too many people had too little money to make ends meet; many Americans were unemployed
1930s	Dust Bowl	Caused by lack of crop rotation, over farming, and drought; caused a mass migration of farmers west looking for work
1930	Hawley-Smoot Tariff Act	Raised tariffs to highest point in American history; led other countries to raised their own tariffs, reducing international trade
1930	Mexican Repatriation Act	Led to the forced deportation of many Mexican Americans and Mexican immigrants during the Great Depression
1930-1931	Bank Runs	After the stock market crash, people went to the banks to withdraw all of their savings as one time
1931	Federal Reserve Raised Interest Rates	Made it harder to get a loan from the bank, which caused many business to close their doors because they could not afford to stay open

1932	New Deal	President Roosevelt's plan to end the Great Depression; stressed the "three R's" of relief, recovery, and reform
1933	Tennessee Valley Authority	Public corporation which build 20 dams, conducted projects for farmers, rehabilitated the area
1933	Rural Electrification Administration	Provided affordable electricity to isolated rural areas
1933	Civilian Conservation Corps	Provided employment for 3 million young men in "fresh air" projects included reforestation, fire fighting, and swamp drainage
1933	Agricultural Adjustment Act	Offered contracts to farmers to reduce their output of designated products; declared unconstitutional by the Supreme Court; the 2 nd AAA gave funds for soil conservation to farmers who removed land from production
1933	Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation	Insures bank deposits; restores public confidence in the banking industry
1933	Securities and Exchange Commission	Created to supervise stock exchanges and to punish fraud in securities trading
1934	Federal Housing Administration	Helps people to get affordable mortgage loans from the bank
1935	Social Security Act	Established retirement pensions for persons over 65 based on taxes paid by employee and employers
1935	Works Progress Administration	Distributed \$3.3 billion states and local governments to build highways, schools, etc.
1937	Court Packing Plan	Upset by the Supreme Court striking down New Deal legislation, FDR proposed a bill to allow the President to appoint a new justice for each who did not retire by age 70; would have allowed FDR to appoint 6 new justices; not approved by Congress

1939	The Grapes of Wrath	Written by John Steinbeck; portrayed the plight of migrant agricultural workers in California during the Great Depression and Dust Bowl
1930s-1940s	Holocaust	Genocide of Jews in Europe; over 6 million Jews and 5 million other Europeans died; concentration and death camps were used to carry out this genocide
1939-1945	World War II	Began when Germany invaded Poland and ended when the United States dropped atomic bombs on Japan
1939	Germany Invades Poland	Hitler invades Poland, leading Great Britain and France to declare war on Germany
1939-1947	Manhattan Project	Government program created to research and develop atomic weapons
1941	Lend-Lease Act	Congress authorized the president to transfer, lend, or lease any article of defense equipment to any government whose defense seemed vital to the defense of the United States
1941	Japanese Bomb Pearl Harbor	Surprise attack by Japanese on U.S. Pacific fleet in Pearl Harbor, in response, U.S. declares war on Japan and Germany
1942	Executive Order 9066	Relocated all Japanese living on the West Coast of the United States into internment camps
1942	Bataan Death March	Initiated after Japanese forces took over control of the Philippines; many U.S. and Filipino soldiers faced torture, dehydration, starvation, and death
1942	Battle of Midway	Turning point of the Pacific Front in World War II; led to the U.S. initiation of the island hopping campaign
1942	Island Hopping	Created by Douglas MacArthur; U.S. forces selectively attacked islands in the Pacific, while passing over others
1944	Korematsu v. United States	Supreme Court Cases, in which the Courts upheld the constitutionality of internment camps; Supreme Court said that during times of war constitutional rights may be violated in order to protect Americans
1944	D-Day/Invasion of Normandy	Led by Eisenhower; over 1,000,000 troops stormed the beaches at Normandy and began the process of taking France; the turning point of the European Front

1944-1945	Liberation of Concentration Camps	As Allied forces caused German forces to retreat they discovered the horrors of Nazi extremism
1944	G.I. Bill/Servicemen's Re-Adjustment Act	Granted \$13 billion in aid for former servicemen, ranging from educational grants to housing and other services to assist with the readjustment to society after demobilization
1945	Atomic Bombs Dropped on Japan	Led to the surrender of Japan and the end of World War II
1945-1991	Cold War	Following World War II the United States and Soviet Union emerged as superpowers. The two faced off in an arms race that lasted nearly 50 years
1945	House Un-American Activities Committee	Conducted a series of sensational investigations into supposed communist infiltration of the U.S. government and Hollywood film industry
1946	Mendez v. Westminster	California Court Case which declared the separation of Mexican American and Mexican immigrants children in schools unconstitutional
1947	General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade	International organization created after World War II to decrease tariffs
1947	Truman Doctrine	United States would support any nation threatened by Communism with economic and military aid
1947	Marshall Plan	Proposed massive and systematic American economic aid to Europe to revitalize European economies and help prevent spread of Communism
1947-1954	Red Scare	Americans feared the spread of communism, especially communist spies infiltrating the U.S. government and military; led to many Americans being put on trial with insufficient evidence
1948	Delgado v. Bastrop ISD	Texas Court Case which declared segregation in schools unconstitutional, but allowed for segregation on the same campus
1948	Israel Created	United Nations approved the creation of a Jewish State
1948-1949	Berlin Airlift	Stalin's Russia blockaded Berlin completely in hopes that the West would give the entire city to the Soviets to administer; U.S. and Great Britain mounted airlifts to bring in food and supplies

1949	North Atlantic Treaty Organization	Member nations agreed to fight for each other if attacked; created an international military force
1940s-1950s	McCarthyism	The fear of communism increased throughout the 1950s as Americans became sensitized to the threat through publicized investigations of critics of the government led by Senator Joseph McCarthy
1950	Sweatt v. Painter	Supreme Court Case which declared that the all-black law school in Texas was not equal to UT Law School; decision would later influence the Brown v. Board of Education Supreme Court Case
1950-1953	Korean War	Korea partitioned along the 38 th parallel after World War II with the south control by the U.S. and the north controlled by the U.S.S.R.; in 1950 North Korea invaded South Korea. U.N. raised an international army led by the U.S. to enforce peace; Korea remained divided by the 38 th Parallel
1951	22 nd Amendment	Limited the number of terms of a president to two; inspired by FDR's four term presidency
1954	Polio Vaccine	Invented by Jonas Salk; helped to increase life expectancy and eradicate a deadly disease
1954	Texas v. Hernandez	Supreme Court Case which declared that there was a difference between race and ethnicity and so guaranteed the Hispanics were protected under the 14 th Amendment
1954	Brown v. Board of Education	Supreme Court outlawed racial segregation in public schools with this landmark case that reversed the Plessey v. Ferguson decision of "separate but equal"
1954-1975	Vietnam War	U.S. involvement was motivated by fear that the Domino Theory was playing out in Asia
1955	Montgomery Bus Boycott	Began when Rosa Parks refused to give up her seat on the bus to a white man; sparked the Civil Rights Movement and began a bus boycott that lasted for eleven months
1956	Interstate Highway Act	President Eisenhower pushed for Congress to pass; helped to increase mobility and migration across the nation

1957	Little Rock Nine	Governor Faubus sent the Arkansas National Guard to prevent nine black students from entering Little Rock Central High School; Eisenhower sent in U.S. Troops to ensure the students could attend class
1957	Launch of Sputnik by the Soviets	The start of the space race between the United States and the Soviet Union
1957-1969	Space Race	Competition between the U.S. and Soviet Union, which started when the Soviets successfully launched Sputnik and ended when the U.S. successfully landed and walked on the moon
1958	National Aeronautics and Space Administration	Government agency created to help fuel the development of space technology and further space exploration
1958	National Defense Education Act	Reaction to Sputnik; multi-million dollar loan fund to focus curriculum in math and sciences
1960s	Chicano Mural Movement	Started in the Southwestern region of the United States; paintings depicted Hispanic cultural and increase pride in Hispanic heritage
1961	Freedom Riders	African American and Whites traveled around the south testing the law desegregating interstate buses and helped to desegregate lunch counters
1961	Berlin Wall	USSR erects a wall between East and West Berlin to keep people from fleeing from the East
1962	United Farm Workers	Co-founded by Dolores Huerta and Cesar Chavez; fought for the rights of migrant workers
1963	Cuban Missile Crisis	After discovering that the Russians were building a nuclear missile launch site in Cuba, the U.S. announced a quarantine of Cuba (blockade); after six days of confrontation that led to the brink of nuclear war, Khrushchev backed down and agreed to dismantle the launch sites
1963	March on Washington	led by civil rights leaders, over 200,000 African Americans and Whites spent the day in song, prayer, and listening to speeches
1963	I Have a Dream Speech	Given by Martin Luther King, Jr. during the March on Washington

1963	Letter from a Birmingham Jail	Written by Martin Luther King, Jr. to justify the use of civil disobedience in the civil rights movement
1963	Feminine Mystique	Written by Betty Friedan; encourage women to seek new opportunities for themselves (work outside the home)
1964	Gulf of Tonkin Resolution	U.S. Navy ship Maddux reportedly fired upon; U.S. Congress passed resolution which gave the President power to send troops to Vietnam to protect against further North Vietnamese aggression
1964	24 th Amendment	Outlawed poll taxes at presidential or congressional elections as an effort to remove barriers to black voters
1964	Economic Opportunity Act	Created programs such as Head Start, VISTA, and the Job Corps to help increase economic opportunities for those living in poverty
1964	White v. Regester	Supreme Court case which declared that Texas was disenfranchising its minority voters when drawing congressional districts
1964	Civil Rights Act of 1964	Public accommodations could not be segregated and nobody could be denied access to public accommodations based on race
1965	Great Society	President Johnson's focus on peace, prosperity, anti-poverty, prudence, and progress
1965	Elementary and Secondary Education Act	Increase federal funding to schools
1965	Immigration Act	Eliminated immigration quotas; caused immigration to increase
1965	Voting Rights Act	Eliminated literacy tests as a qualification for voting
1965 - 1968	Escalation of Forces	U.S. dramatically increased troop deployments in Vietnam after Congress passed the Gulf of Tonkin Resolution
1966	National Organization for Women	Co-founded by Betty Friedan; worked for equality of women in society, especially in the work place

1966	Medicare	Provided, under Social Security, for federal subsidies to pay for hospitalization of sick people over the age of 65
1967	Public Broadcasting Act	Created the Public Broadcasting Station, which provides educational programming regardless of economic status
1968	Tet Offensive	Psychological turning point of the Vietnam War; increased domestic opposition to the war
1968	American Indian Movement	Created to fight for the rights of Native Americans; included the Occupations of Alcatraz, Mount Rushmore, and Wounded Knee and the March on Washington
1968	Martin Luther King, Jr. Assassination	The assassination of this civil rights activist greatly impacted the civil rights movement
1969	Tinker v. Des Moines	Supreme Court Case which allowed free speech in schools, as long as, it does not interrupt the school day or violate the rights of other students
1969	U.S. Moon Landing	Neil Armstrong becomes the first person to walk on the moon, beating Communists in the moon race
1969-1975	Vietnamization	President Nixon's plan to decrease U.S. involvement in Vietnam and help the South Vietnam learn to defend themselves
Late 1960s- Early 1970s	Anti-War Movement	Protests over U.S. involvement in an undeclared war; many took place on college campuses (Kent State and Jackson State)
1970	Environmental Protection Agency	Created to help conserve the natural resources for future generations
1971	26 th Amendment	Lowered the voting age to 18 thereby allowing a greater percentage of U.S. citizens to participate in the process of government
1972	Nixon Visits China	Nixon met with Mao Tse-tung for improved relations with China; led to the establishment of a trade policy and recognized the People's Republic of China
1972	Strategic Arms Limitation Treaty	Created between the U.S. and Soviet Union; example of détente; U.S. and Soviet Union promised to decrease the number of nuclear weapons – peaces did not last long

1972	Watergate	Scandal involving Richard Nixon's administration that ended in Nixon's resignation. The scandal involved a break-in, paid for by the Nixon campaign committee at the Democratic National Committee office at the Watergate office complex in Washington D.C.
1972	Wisconsin v. Yoder	Supreme Court Case that declared freedom of religion supersedes a states desire to educate all students
1972	Equal Rights Amendment	Amendment calling for equal rights for both sexes
1972	Title IX of the Higher Education Act	Legislation which ensured equal opportunities for women in educational courses and sports
1973	War Powers Act	Gave the president the power to go to war under certain circumstances, but required that he could only do so for 90 days without Congressional approval
1973	OPEC Oil Embargo	After U.S. support for Israel in the Six Day War and the Yom Kippur War – OPEC imposed an oil embargo on all oil to the U.S. in an attempt to pressure American into a pro-Arab stance
1973	Endangered Species Act	Passed by Congress to protect species facing extinction
1975	Fall of Saigon	End of the Vietnam War; led to the mass exodus of Americans and American supporters from Vietnam
1977	Community Re-Investment Act	Law which increased the ability of Americans living in low-income neighborhoods to receive loans from the banks
1978	Bakke v. University of California	Supreme Court Case which upheld the constitutionality of affirmative action, but ruled racial quotas were unconstitutional; dealt with issues of reverse discrimination
1978	Camp David Accords	First peace treaty between Israel and Egypt (Arab Nation); Egypt recognized the existence of Israel
1979-1981	Iran Hostage Crisis	Revolution forces the Shah to flee Iran; Ayatollah Khomeini establish an Islamic Republic; Carter allowed Shah refuge in the U.S. for medical reasons; Iranian militants broke into the U.S. embassy and held the staff hostage for 444 days

1980s	Reaganomics	Conservative economic policy, which emphasized deregulation, lower taxes, supply-side economics, and decrease in government spending (social welfare)
1980s	"Peace through Strength"	President Reagan's foreign policy plan, which included the Reagan Doctrine and the Strategic Defense Initiative
1981	Sandra Day O'Connor	Became the first women Supreme Court Justice
1983	Civil War in Lebanon	Reagan sent peacekeeping troops to Beirut; troops were left vulnerable to attacks
1984	Edgewood ISD v. Kirby	Texas Court Case which forced the Texas Legislature to change the way schools receive funding; can't be based solely on property taxes
1985-1987	Iran-Contra Affair	Scandal during Reagan's administration; government officials illegally sold weapons to Iranian revolutionaries and in return used the money to fund Contras in Nicaragua
1987	INF Treaty	Created between the U.S. and Soviet Union; both countries promised to destroy intermediate range missile and allowed countries to inspect each other
1990-1991	Persian Gulf War	U.S. forces became involved in Operation Desert Storm to liberate Kuwait; showed the importance of oil in terms of national security and that the U.S. would continue to play a dominate role in international affairs
1991	Cold War Ends	This almost fifty year conflict with the Soviet Union ends with the fall of the Berlin Wall
1992-1995	Balkan Crisis	U.S. and N.A.T.O. forces intervene to stop genocide; showed that the U.S. would continue to play a major role in international affairs
1994	Contract with America	Created by Newt Gingrich; government officials promised to decreased the size of government and make it more responsible to its constituents
1994	North American Free Trade Agreement	Created to help stimulate trade by decreasing tariffs between the United States, Canada, and Mexico
1995	World Trade Organization	International organization that took the place of GATT; created to regulate international trade and settle trade disputes

1998	Clinton Impeachment	Scandal during Clinton's presidency which centered around him committing perjury (lying under oath)
2000	Presidential Election/ Bush v. Gore	Controversial election; Supreme Court intervene to stop the recounts; affect the relationship between the Legislative and Executive branches
2001	9/11 Terrorist Attacks	over 3,000 Americans died when four commercial planes were hijacked; U.S. responded by creating the Department of Homeland Security, passage of the USA PATRIOT Act, and starting the Global War on Terror
2001- Present	Global War on Terror	Increased U.S. involvement in Southeast Asia and the Middle East to protect the U.S. from future attacks
2001	USA PATRIOT Act	Created after the 9/11 terrorist attacks; increased the ability of the government to run surveillance on Americans; controversial because it violates Americans privacy and the 4 th Amendment (protection from unreasonable search and seizure) referred to as "the stimulus plan"; created to stimulate the economy through corporate and individual tax cuts, unemployment benefits, increase domestic spending, and social welfare
2005	Hurricane Katrina	Severe weather event which led the death of many Americans when the levees failed in New Orleans
2008	Barack Obama	Became the first African American President of the United States
2009	Sonia Sotomayor	Became the first Hispanic Supreme Court Justice and third women Supreme Court Justice
2009	American Recovery and Re-Investment Act	Referred to as "the stimulus plan"; created to stimulate the economy through corporate and individual tax cuts, unemployment benefits, increase domestic spending, and social welfare